



## CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

June 22, 2004

### **H.R. 218** **Law Enforcement Officers Safety Act of 2003**

*As ordered reported by the House Committee on the Judiciary on June 16, 2004*

H.R. 218 would exempt certain current and former law enforcement officers from state laws prohibiting the carrying of concealed firearms. CBO estimates that the bill would have no impact on federal spending or receipts.

H.R. 218 contains an intergovernmental mandate as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA) because it would permit qualified current and former state and local law enforcement officers to carry certain concealed firearms. Currently, 17 states prohibit anyone from carrying concealed weapons and 32 states prohibit out-of-state, off-duty law enforcement officers from carrying concealed weapons; this bill would preempt those laws.

States and law enforcement agencies also would have to provide an annual certification or identification process that demonstrates that the retiree has met the state's or agency's training and qualification standards to carry a firearm. Because most states have a reauthorization system in place, CBO estimates that the costs for those governments to comply would be insignificant and well below the annual threshold established in UMRA (\$60 million in 2004, adjusted annually for inflation). H.R. 218 contains no new private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA.

The CBO staff contacts for this estimate are Mark Grabowicz (for federal costs), and Lauren McMahon and Melissa Merrill (for the state and local impact). This estimate was approved by Peter H. Fontaine, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.